

## BULGARIANS BEG 48-HOUR ARMISTICE; 16,000 HUNS BAGGED IN CHAMPAGNE; GAINS ON HINDENBURG LINE

FRANCO-AMERICANS IN  
ADVANCE ON 21-MILE FRONT

New Offensive in Champagne Developing With Utmost Success—French Add 7,000 Captives to Gen. Pershing's Report of 5,000.

Paris, Sept. 27.—French troops that attacked in Champagne in conjunction with the American drive in the Argonne forest and north of Verdun advanced over three miles over a front of more than twenty-one miles, the war office announced today.

## Extent of Victory Growing.

All the way from Suippe to the Argonne forest the French brilliantly stormed powerful German defensive works that the Germans had been strengthening since 1915.

The French captured 7,000 German prisoners in the first day of the battle, of whom 200 were officers.

Gen. Pershing put the number of prisoners taken by the Americans at over 5,000.

## Second Enemy Line Captured.

With the American Army in France, Sept. 27.—(9 a.m.)—All the second German positions on the Hindenburg line in the Mont Faucon sector have been captured by the Americans, who passed beyond them.

The engagement on the zone of the American drive is progressing.

The Americans have advanced beyond the region of Nantillois. The Germans have withdrawn most of their artillery from the Mont Faucon district.

NOON.—American attacks were renewed today in the big drive between the Argonne forest and the Meuse river.

Americans began assaulting the German positions at 5:30 o'clock this morning, pressing forward, according to schedule everywhere except on the center, where a strong German garrison was encountered. The members of this garrison had emerged from tunnels during the night that were connected with deep dug-outs in the Mont Faucon sector.

Despite Bad Weather. The assault was renewed this morning despite bad weather. No badly weathered Germans were seen, but they could not undertake any counter attacks.

The attack is unfolding with complete success.

From Suippe to the Argonne forest first German positions found to be protected by a network of trenches and wire entanglements more than five kilometers deep and of which the Germans had been able to avail themselves since 1915, were brilliantly carried by the French on a front of thirty-five kilometers and passed at some points.

Navarin farm, the Butte de Souain, the Butte de Mulet, the Butte de Tachure and the Butte de Mesnil, Tachure village, Ripont, Bouvrot, Cerny-en-Dorval and Melcourt, which had been organized by the enemy as a strong supporting position and which were formerly defended by the enemy, were conquered in severe fighting on the first day of the battle.

In the course of the night the enemy failed to attempt any reaction.

The attack is being pursued under satisfactory conditions.

Over the entire field of attack by the French between Suippe and the Argonne forest, the formidable German positions of a depth of more than three miles were brilliantly carried.

## RUSSIA REORGANIZED

Order Out of Chaos; Central Power Emerging.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Out of the chaos which has existed in Russia since the overthrow of the Kerensky government by the bolsheviks, there is emerging a central authority which officials and diplomats here hope will be able to re-establish order and renew the fight against the common enemy.

Official information reached the Russian embassy today that the Pan-Russian conference at Oufa, European Russia, which has been recognized by all the provisional governments opposing the bolsheviks, including the Siberian government, has constituted a committee of five as the lawful authority for all Russia. This committee will be responsible to the constituent assembly of all Russia, which will convene next Jan. 1, provided 250 members attend.

## ATTACK KEY ENEMY ARCH

Washington, Sept. 27.—The keystone of the great German defensive arch in France is under assault in the Franco-American offensive launched in the Champagne over a front of forty miles. Because of the place of attack selected by Marshal Foch, military officials here regarded the new blow as one of wide strategic importance.

It was not until Gen. Pershing's official statement arrived late last night that a definite idea was given of the extent and success of the initial rush. The Americans advanced on a front of twenty miles to an average depth of seven miles, taking more than 5,000 prisoners and twelve towns. The French war office previously had reported that the French troops further west had advanced nearly four miles at certain points.

## Acting Consul Poole

Arrives in Stockholm  
Stockholm, Sept. 27.—(A. P.)—Dewitt Poole, Jr., acting American consul-general in Moscow, has arrived here. When he left Moscow a month ago, H. R. Lockhart, the British consul-general in Moscow, and other entente officials and entente civilians were imprisoned in the Kremlin.

## TWO VICTIMS OF WRECK.

J. H. McCall, engineer, and Joe Hoyle killed near Hot Springs.  
Knoxville, Sept. 27.—(Special.)—J. H. McCall, engineer, and Joe Hoyle, fireman, both of Knoxville, were killed when a Southern train jumped the track near Hot Springs, N. C., this morning, according to information received here.

## Retirement Admitted.

Berlin, Sept. 27.—(Via London.)—German troops on the front on both sides of the Argonne retired to their lines of defense before the Franco-American attack Thursday, according to the official statement from German general headquarters today.

MADE OFFER TO LEADER  
ALLIED ARMY IN FIELD

Amsterdam, Sept. 27.—The Bulgarian premier's offer of an armistice was made to the leader of the entente troops operating against Bulgaria, according to a Berlin message received here.

BULGARIA WANTS  
TO QUIT THE WAR

Premier Malinoff Makes Offer of Armistice to Allies. Berlin Message

## CAUSES DISSATISFACTION

King Ferdinand Not Supporting Move—Indicates Revolution in Progress.

Paris, Sept. 27.—The French commander-in-chief in Macedonia officially reports today that the Bulgarians have asked for a meeting to arrange the conditions of an armistice and eventual peace.

The French commander replied, refusing to suspend the operations, but saying he would receive duly qualified delegates of the Bulgarian government.

## From Official Sources.

The news of the Bulgarian developments, including the offer of an armistice, the Copenhagen correspondent states, was from German official sources.

London, Sept. 27.—Premier Malinoff of Bulgaria, has made an offer of an armistice to the allies, according to a Berlin message transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at Copenhagen. The message states that the premier's offer was made without the support of other members of the cabinet or of King Ferdinand.

The Berlin message says that Malinoff's offer has created great dissatisfaction in Bulgaria, and that strong military measures have been taken to support the Bulgarian front.

According to statements from Sofia by way of Jassy, it is added, a counter movement against the action of the premier has already been set on foot. (This would seem to indicate that a revolution is in progress in Bulgaria.)

The Berlin message to Copenhagen gives the first intimation of any move made by Bulgaria to approach her enemies with conciliatory proposals. The message in its bare outlines would seem to indicate that the premier had taken matters into his own hands and attempted to initiate a peace move for Bulgaria independent of the dynasty. Amounts to Act of Revolt.

A move so made might ordinarily be considered, in a broad way, to amount to a revolution, and it is pointed out to the execution of a coup d'etat in Sofia.

The indications in the news from Bulgaria recently have been that the country was in a somewhat disorganized state with widespread discontent manifest over the prolongation of the war, in the further prosecution of which the Bulgarian people were able to see little advantage to the successful offensive of the allies now in progress in Macedonia has accentuated this tendency. It is known that M. Malinoff, who took the premiership in June last, was friendly to the entente. In the early stages of the war, before Bulgaria's entrance, there had not been wanting predictions that he might in some way seek to use his influence toward extricating Bulgaria from the unenviable position which she would occupy in the event of German defeat in the war, which doubtless appears to him to be impending.

Not Above Suspicion. King Ferdinand himself has not been above the suspicion of entertaining a like desire, although nominally he has been loyal to his Teutonic allies in act and utterance. In this connection the wording of the Bulgarian reply to the Austrian peace note with the readiness it expressed to accept President Wilson's principles for the settlement of the war was held not to be without

## THREE DRIVES ON TODAY

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48-HOUR REST IS  
SOUGHT BY ENEMY

High Bulgarian Officer Asks Allies for Suspension of Arms.

## GERMANY TO PROTEST

Solemn Objection to Proposal. Wants Premier Court-Martialed for Treason.

Paris, Sept. 27.—Gen. Franchet d'Esperey, commanding the allied armies in Macedonia, has telegraphed to the French government that a high Bulgarian officer has presented himself in behalf of Gen. Terodoff, commanding the Bulgarian army, asking the suspension of arms for forty-eight hours to permit the arrival of two authorized delegates from the Bulgarian government.

The minister of finance, Laptcheff, and Gen. Loukov, commanding the Bulgarian second army, are on their way to the French headquarters with the assent of King Ferdinand to arrange the conditions of the armistice and eventually the terms of peace.

Grants No Armistice. Gen. D'Esperey says that as the Bulgarian request may be a military ruse to allow the regrouping of forces and the arrival of reinforcements, he made a reply declining to grant an armistice, but promising to receive duly qualified government delegates.

Debate Unchecked. The Bulgarian debate continues unchecked and the plight of King Ferdinand's war-weary country has become so desperate that overtures have been made for an armistice by the Bulgarian premier, according to information from Germany which was said to be official.

On the Balkan battle front the allies are almost in Uskub, the chief Bulgarian base in southern Serbia, while the whole left wing of the Bulgarian Second army is menaced by the British invasion of Bulgaria.

London, Sept. 27.—Germany intends to send a solemn protest to Bulgaria against Premier Malinoff's request for an armistice, according to Berlin reports received in Amsterdam, and forwarded by the Exchange Telegraph company.

The Berlin dispatches say that the premier's act "is a single-handed move without the consent of King Ferdinand." Germans demand that Malinoff be dismissed immediately and court-martialed for high treason.

It is believed that the premier's act was the result of Germany's refusal to send sufficient reinforcements to Bulgaria. The situation in Bulgaria is causing extreme excitement in Germany.

The British government today received from an official authorized source an application from Bulgaria for an armistice.

Reaches Amsterdam. Amsterdam, Sept. 27.—Germany intends to send a solemn protest against the Bulgarian premier's proposal for an armistice, according to reports from Berlin and Vienna this afternoon.

German newspapers are said to be demanding the immediate dismissal of Malinoff, the Bulgarian premier, and his court-martial for high treason.

It is believed that Malinoff's action will result in Germany's refusal to send sufficient reinforcements to the Bulgarian front to stem the allies' drive.

significance. It will be noted that the news of the Bulgarian act comes from German sources, and while its accuracy as to the main fact of the offering of the armistice cannot be doubted, it may be questioned if it reflects accurately the state of affairs in Bulgaria, which accompanied and followed the offer. The fact that counter measures have been found necessary would appear to indicate that the premier was supported in his act by internal forces and the participation of which would make it seem that a revolution in progress in the Bulgarian kingdom.

Whether this would necessarily affect the dynasty may be doubtful, but the meagre advice so far received do not warrant the drawing of definite conclusions.

Weaken Bulgarian Morale. At any rate, it seems that the disorganized state of affairs at Sofia points either to the success of the armistice move or to the weakening of the Bulgarian morale to such an extent as to make it doubtful if the Bulgarians will be able to put up a really effective defense against the threatened invasion of their soil in force by the entente armies now sweeping the Bulgarian troops back in Serbia.

Cooler, Says Billy Possum.

If you can't get in the army, and your whiskers reach your knees, though you hobble round on crutches and each cypher makes you sneeze, don't give up the future's rosy, there is much that you can do. Get the up and down Western Union make a messenger of you. Rain and cooler to night. Saturday fair and continued cool.

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D'ANNUNZIO FLIES OVER  
ALPS, REACHES PARIS

Paris, Sept. 27.—Gabriele d'Annunzio, the Italian aviator, arrived in Paris this morning in an airplane, flying from Italy across the Alps.

SKILLFUL COUP  
BY AMERICANS

Masked Attack Northwest of Verdun Results in Pocketing Mont Faucon.

## HUNS TAKEN BY SURPRISE

"Don't Shell Place," Flash Back Infantry to Artillery, "We Have Taken It."

(By Henry G. Wales.)  
With the American Army in France, 10 p.m., Sept. 26.—(L. N. S.)—Americans cleverly "pocketed" Mont Faucon in their big attack northwest of Verdun today. Mont Faucon is a strong point which tops a bare and treeless ridge on the plain between Avoucourt and Romagne.

The action was skillfully masked by the Americans, who did not try to storm the German machine gun nests frontally, but "pinched out" the town from the rear.

The Americans took Septages and then pushed on northward, taking two more villages.

In the meanwhile the enemy machine gunners at Mont Faucon were expecting a frontal attack.

The German batteries did not fire upon the place, knowing that there were Germans in the town.

American batteries also refrained from shelling because air observers had reported seeing American patrols entering the town from the east and west.

Finally an artillery commander notified the infantry to keep out until the second shell the bushes out of Mont Faucon.

"Don't shell the town; we have just captured it," was the reply flashed back by the American infantry commander.

A couple of hundred of German machine guns were taken at Mont Faucon. Mont Faucon was a strong German pivot point, where determined resistance was expected.

Wagon drivers and the chauffeurs of motor trucks were provided with wire cutters to eliminate the barbed wire entanglements on the roads and the transport followed up the advancing infantry so closely that the drivers had to cut the wire pass wider to permit the vehicles to pass through.

As the Americans progressed, shell holes in the roads were filled with spears captured from the Germans.

Speed King Brings Down Plane. With the American Army in France, Night, Sept. 26.—(L. N. S.)—Eddie Rickenbacker, the former American speed king, shot down his eighth enemy plane today north of Verdun.

Rickenbacker's propeller was riddled with bullets and he was barely able to land safely in a field near Verdun.

American aviators dropped five tons of bombs on Dun-sur-Meuse (north of Verdun), and Etain (northeast of Verdun).

For the first time today single-seated American fighting planes operated in darkness in co-operation with the attacking troops in the new Franco-American drive between Auberville and the Meuse.

Thrilling Air Fight. American chase pilots soared upward before dawn, hovered above German machine gun nests and raked them with machine gun fire, shot down several balloons in flames and attacked enemy gun crews.

All day long the American pilots maintained the supremacy of the air, although the Germans rushed up air units from other sectors and fought the Yankee patrolling groups desperately in squads of twenty and thirty.

This evening American pursuit planes raided many enemy drachens, which rise at night to observe gun flashes in an effort to locate batteries. The Yanks shot down two drachens and drove down eight others.

Four enemy planes were shot down by American pilots, Meisner, Chambers, White, Vasconcello and Roberts, and two were bagged by Pilcher Palmer, Sparks, McLanahan, Rickenbacker, Lusk and Cochrane.

The aviators co-operated with detachments of infantry, tanks and cavalry, sweeping down low over the enemy, dropping signal rockets and flying back with messages.

Observation Capture. American observation planes witnessed the entrance of the Yankee infantry into Mont Faucon (northwest of Verdun). The infantry entered from the rear after pinching out the strong enemy positions on each flank.

A captured German order indicates that the attack was expected yesterday, the third anniversary of Joffre's Champagne offensive. The German troops were ordered to withdraw from the advanced trench system, known as naren Stellung, and order to defend the intermediary system called the weaker Stellung, but the Americans rushed the second position and then the third, called the kriegshides Stellung.

The First Prussian guard division, defending the Delafoux ravine, offered the bitterest resistance, but when the Americans smashed through, the survivors surrendered. One American division captured twenty-two field guns. The counter battery work of the American artillery was remarkable.

BRITISH BLOW FOLLOWS  
AMERICANS' BIG DRIVE

Assault Launched On Thirty-Mile Extent South of Sensee River — 122,000 Germans Are Opposing Marshal Haig's Troops.

London, Sept. 27.—(1:20 p.m.)—The new British drive which was launched this morning south of the Sensee river was begun over a front of thirty miles, according to information secured this afternoon.

Pressure from this new British blow centers against Cambrai and St. Quentin.

## Close On Yankees' Heels.

Following closely upon the heels of the great American blow against the Germans west of the Meuse river, the British launched a new drive on a wide front south of the Sensee river today, the war office announced.

(The Sensee river lies in the region east of Arras, between the Picaardy and Flanders battle fronts. Gen. Haig's new blow there is part of the great turning movement against Cambrai.)

The war office stated that all reports indicated that satisfactory progress was being made.

The attack was made on a wide front at 5:30 this morning.

Successful night operations are being carried out by the allies in the neighborhood of Arleux, northwest of La Bassée and southwest of Fleurbaix.

The line was advanced in these localities and some prisoners were captured.

## Parallels the Scarpe.

The Sensee river is a small stream flowing to the northeast and paralleling on the south the Scarpe river, which flows past Arras and passes through the important city of Douai, one of the principal German bases on the Artois front in France. It is probable that the British attack is made for the purpose of driving a wedge between Douai and Cambrai, about fifteen miles to the south.

## To Break Cambrai Line.

London, Sept. 27.—(3:30 p.m.)—British troops in their new drive against the German base at Cambrai today crossed the Canal Du Nord all the way from Havincourt to the Scarpe river, east of Arras.

It was learned on the best authority this afternoon that Field Marshal Haig aimed this blow as an effort to break the German positions in front of Cambrai.

## Face Nine Divisions.

British Headquarters in France, Sept. 27.—(Reuters)—A heavy rain falling during the early hours made the work of assembly more difficult, but some time before zero all the troops were in position, the rain had ceased and had been replaced by a thick haze which assisted in bewildering the enemy as to the extent and direction of our movement. About nine German divisions (122,000 men) are understood to be opposing Haig's men. So far the battle seems to be going well for the British.

ARMED CHILEAN FORCES  
ON INTERVENED VESSEL

Santiago, Chile, Thursday, Sept. 25.—The Chilean government tonight ordered the naval authorities to occupy with armed forces all the interned German ships in Chilean harbors.

NEW OBSTACLES IMPEDE  
FRENCH IN CHAMPAGNE

GEN. GOURAUD'S MEN MEET GREATER RESISTANCE.

Strike Labyrinth Trenches Over Belt of Country Eight Miles Deep.

With the French Army on the Champagne Front, Sept. 26.—(7 p.m.)—(A. P.)—Gen. Gouraud's men are continuing their advance tonight along the front west of the Argonne forest. Greater resistance was being encountered and fresh obstacles were found to impede their progress. Ahead of them is a belt of country seven or eight miles deep over which there is a labyrinth of trenches. Many block-houses have been built by the Germans there and the ground seems as difficult of capture as that wrested from the Germans today.

The Germans by their retirement today have gained a little time in which to bring up reserves, while Gen. Gouraud is bringing up his guns. This is an advantage in which it is difficult to find sufficient compensation for the ground and men lost today. The lines they retired to are no stronger than those they abandoned.

Enemy airmen made several spectacular attacks on trench observation balloons today. Only one balloon was destroyed, but the observers in three others were forced to descend by parachute. One German airman attacked three balloons in quick succession, plunging down upon one and firing and then rising to dive at another. One of these burst into flames only an instant before the observer had jumped with his parachute. Shrapnel shells then began to burst close about the enemy machine and it turned and sped away for the German lines.

RECOMMENDS LIMITED Legislation as to Time in Which Suits May Be Brought Against Government.

Washington, Sept. 27.—Legislation to limit the time in which suits may be brought against the government for property taken for war purposes has been recommended to congress by Secretary Baker, with the suggestion that the period be four months. This is advocated on the ground that claimants are less likely to press exorbitant claims now than later and that necessary witnesses now in government service cannot be available after the war ends.

Under existing laws the government may pay a percentage of the estimated value of commandeered property and the owner may sue for the difference.

HOLLIS GIRLS TAKE "FLU." Roanoke, Pa., Sept. 26.—Seventy-five cases of Spanish influenza have developed at Hollis college, near here, and this morning one of the young ladies died of pneumonia contracted from an attack of influenza. The number of cases among the children of the Baptist orphanage at Salem, Va., has increased to 68.

At Unknown Camps—Private Charlie Osmont, Halls, Tenn.

Three civilians also were in the list, but the department was unable to supply their addresses. Carl Little is held at Camp Etralong, Nels Erickson at Tuel, and Mel Stevens at Friedrichsfeld.

At Camp Langensalza: Private James M. Anderson, Pigott, Ark.

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